small saving schemes have not recorded any decline. On the contrary, the bank deposits/gross collections of post offices during the last three years have increased as indicated below:—

Rs. in crorc

Year	Deposits in scheduled commercial banks	Year	Gross collections in small savings schemes
1998-99	7,14,025	1998-99	62050
1999-2000	8,13,344	1999-2000	75435
2000-01	9,62,618	2000-01 (Prov)	88548
2000-02 (upto Mar. 29,2002)	11,23,416	2001-02(RE)	90000

(c) Since deposits have increased, question docs not arise.

(d) As reflected in the above table, there has been absolutely no decline in bank deposits or gross collections of post offices and therefore under the circumstances, no special/additional corrective measures appear to be warranted.

Direct flight from Hyderabad to Iran

*518. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether a proposal of direct flight from Hyderabad to Tehran in Iran is under Government's consideration;

(b) if so, by when this flight is likely to start; and

(c) whether details in this regard have been finalised?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.